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MAINTENANCE

**75MM HOWITZER CEREMONIAL CANNON
PROCEDURES**

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This operating instruction establishes responsibilities for the management of the 75MM Howitzer Ceremonial Cannon. It also outlines procedures for ceremonial cannon requests and identifies key procedures and qualifications for cannon operation during ceremonial events. This publication applies to all 90th Space Wing and subordinate units assigned, attached, or supported by the 90th Space Wing, Francis E. Warren Air Force Base. Maintain and dispose of records created as a result of prescribed processes in accordance with AFMAN 37-139, *Records Disposition Schedule* (will become AFMAN 33-322, Volume 4). Comply with AFI 33-332, *Air Force Privacy Act Program*, for documents containing Privacy Act information. Comply with DoD Regulation 5400.7/Air Force Supplement/AFSPC SUP1, DoD *Freedom of Information Act Program*, Chapter 4, for documents containing For Official Use Only information.

1. General Information. The 90th Space Wing maintains a 75mm howitzer for use during special events as deemed appropriate. Typical uses include change of command ceremonies for Group Commanders and above, certain retirement ceremonies, memorial services, and Guardian Challenge and Frontier Days events. Although no live 75mm rounds are used, each shell contains significant amounts of explosive powder, and special care and training is required to safely operate the cannon and associated munitions.

2. Responsibilities:

2.1. The office of primary responsibility for the base ceremonial cannon will be 90 MMXS/MMXMD (Conventional Munitions Section).

2.2. The Conventional Munitions Cannon Team Chief has the responsibility of maintaining safety and security of munitions items and the safety of the cannon crew. The Conventional Munitions Cannon Team Chief has the authority to halt any cannon operation at any time if he/she deems the situation a hazard to the cannon crew or spectators. Additionally, any Cannon team members are also charged with stopping the operation if they observe a situation which could pose a hazard to the crew or spectators.

2.3. The NCOIC, Conventional Munitions Section will ensure only qualified members will operate the 75mm cannon.

3. Procedures:

3.1. General

3.1.1. Personnel who have not been trained to perform explosive operations in accordance with AFI 91-202, para 10.10.2., will not permitted to participate in any cannon operations. Explosive safety training will need to be completed, documented and provided on request to ensure personnel are trained prior to any cannon operations. Only trained individuals under the supervision of an individual who understands the hazards and risks involved in the operation are to handle explosives.

3.1.2. In accordance with AFI 21-201, para 2.9.3.22., cannon operations will be performed by a minimum of two munitions personnel. At least one team member must be a cannon task-qualified 2W0X1.

3.2. Requesting Agencies

3.2.1. Request for cannon support will be submitted to the Commander, 90th Maintenance Group no less than two weeks before the event.

3.2.2. Event scripts will be submitted to the NCOIC of Conventional Munitions (90 MMXS/MMXMD) no later than 3 duty days prior to the ceremony.

3.3. Conventional Munitions Section. The Conventional Munitions Section will:

3.3.1. Ensure a visible safety cordon is established a minimum of 50 feet around the cannon. Only personnel authorized to perform explosive operations are permitted within the cordon. The Cannon Team Chief will control all access in and out of the safety area.

3.3.2. Ensure a minimum of two portable 2A:10BC rated fire extinguishers are readily available.

3.3.3. Ensure misfire procedures are established, briefed, and available on site.

3.3.4. Pre-coordinate cannon firing times with 90 SFS at least 24 hours prior.

3.3.5. Ensure all personnel within the 50 feet cordon are wearing all required Personal Protective Equipment (hearing protection, gloves, and safety glasses, etc.).

3.3.6. The Munitions (Cannon) Team will ensure the 300 foot safety zone in front of the cannon is clear before firing.

3.4. Munitions Control Section. Munitions Control will:

3.4.1. Pre-coordinate the 75mm rounds operation with the base fire department and the Law Enforcement Desk.

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